

February 21, 1973

(Start Belt #9)

I don't believe that Senator Mahoney charges that I'm trying to do away with industry Nebraska is valid. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Senator Kime.

SENATOR KIME: Ah, in answer to Wally Burnett, it was brought out in the testimony, by John Fracker who was speaking for the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, that this bill would, this bill as it stands now, would help the industrial development of the entire state of Nebraska. This man is from Lincoln, from his own home town.

SPEAKER: Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President and members of the body. I think both Senator Kime and Senator Maresh have to my mind, clearly pointed out, why the bill was killed in committee and why, and the deficiencies for the reasons behind it being killed. They point out that there was testimony that if LB 96 were to become law, industry would no longer locate in the state of Nebraska. Now I continually asked a long string of representatives of commerce, industry, in the state of Nebraska, after they made that statement, to give me some verification for that statement, none of them were able to do so. They say well that's the way, that's what we think, that's how we feel about it. There was never one factual basis for the statement that the industry would cease to come to Nebraska, if Nebraska had an agency shop, and in fact there is no relationship between agency shop and any reasonable reason for industry to locate here or not to locate here. Agency shop does not increase or decrease the power of the union. The union already has all the power regardless of agency shop, all agency shop does is provide that the people who work for a plant, that is represented by a union, every member of that plant contributes to the representation they receive and the benefits they receive by that union. Doesn't increase the power of unions one bit, and there is no reason for industry to be fearful of the growth of the power of union, wouldn't increase it one bit, and they never gave a reason for it, so it's a totally meaningless argument that was put forward and apparently digested by a majority of the members of that committee and I think that we should all consider it here on the floor.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter, then Keyes, Schmit and Skarda.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I'd like to ask Senator Maresh a question? In the beginning before the formation of the official chairmanship body, you came to me and said you wanted to be chairman of the labor committee, is that so? Why? It's so unbecoming to a farmer unless he has a specific reason to want to become a chairman of a labor committee.

SENATOR MARESH: I felt that I was qualified. I served two years on the labor committee and I felt that I was qualified.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Would you say for example, you are a little bit prejudice also?

SENATOR MARESH: No I'm not.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Your not?

SENATOR MARESH: No.